HONDA Service Bulletin

Model	Applicable To	File Under	Bulletin No.
			88-037
ALL	ALL	PDI	Issue Date
			MAR 27, 1992

Paint Damage Due to Acid Rain

(Supersedes 88-037, dated June 2, 1989)

SYMPTOM

Careful visual examination of a paint surface that has been washed, rinsed thoroughly, and dried reveals "waterspots" and/or spots of discoloration in the paint. Refer to Service Bulletin 88-036 for the inspection procedure.

PROBABLE CAUSE

The paint surface has been etched by rainwater made acidic or alkaline by atmospheric impurities. The extent of the damage can vary greatly, depending on how long the impurities have sat on the surface. In very severe cases, the base coat is damaged, requiring repainting.

PREVENTION

The shipping wax applied at the factory provides the best protection against damage by acid rain and industrial fallout. It is strongly recommended that the shipping wax be left on the car as long as possible. The dealership is responsible for maintaining the car's finish after this wax is removed. During the high heat and humidity periods of the year, the car must be rinsed off (with water only) after every exposure to rainfall.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Select a small area of the paint surface that has suffered obvious acid rain damage. Perform the steps under **DIAGNOSIS** on this area. After each step, inspect to determine if all traces of the damage are removed. Note which step repairs the damage. Repair the rest of the damaged areas using the same set of steps. Glaze and wax the car after completing the repairs.

NOTE: Each of the steps in the diagnostic procedure removes a small layer of the paint finish, reducing its durability. It is very important to perform the steps in order, inspect the surface often, and stop when it is repaired.

DIAGNOSIS

Refer to the RECOMMENDED MATERIALS list for the suggested compounds and pads to use with this procedure. NEW

1. Clean the area with a wax and grease remover.
2. Add one tablespoon of baking soda to a quart of water. Wash the area with this solution and rinse thoroughly. Inspect and continue if necessary.
3. Hand-polish the test area. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for the selected system. (Do not use any included sanding materials at this time.) Inspect the paint surface, and continue if necessary.
4. Following the instructions supplied with the selected system, polish the test area using an electric buffer and polishing pad. Inspect the surface frequently to see if the acid rain damage has been removed. The goal is to remove the minimum amount of finish necessary to cure the problem.

   CAUTION: Check the buffing pad and surface frequently to avoid wearing through the finish.

   - Clear-coated paints should deposit no body color on the pad. If the body color starts to appear on the pad, stop immediately and examine your work. This is an indication that the clear coat has been worn completely away in some areas, and the color coat is no longer protected.
   - Some non-metallic paints are protected by a clear coat combined with some body color. In this case, the buffing pad will show some body color immediately. If this clear/color coat is buffed through, there will be a dramatic change in the color intensity on the buffing pad.

(over)

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CUSTOMER INFORMATION: The information in this bulletin is intended for use *only* by skilled technicians who have the proper tools, equipment, and training to correctly and safely maintain your vehicle. These procedures should not be attempted by "do-it-yourselfers," and you should not assume this bulletin applies to your vehicle, or that your vehicle has the condition described. To determine whether this information applies, contact an authorized Honda automobile dealer.

- Check the appropriate Paint Codes Service Bulletin to determine if a paint finish is clear-coated or clear/color-coated.

NOTE: Approximately 95% of all cars damaged by acid rain should be repaired by steps 1 through 4. More severe damage will require you to go on to step 5.

5. Apply a rubbing compound, using an electric buffer and buffing pad. Follow this with an application of machine glaze, applied with the electric buffer and polishing pad. Inspect and continue if necessary.

   NOTE: DSM approval is required before going on to Step 6 if this is a warranty repair.

6. Wet-sand the area with #1500 or #2000 sandpaper, then use the polishing compound from the selected Finesse system with an electric buffer to polish out the scratches. If damage remains visible, repeat this process using #1200 sandpaper. If damage is still evident, a #1000 sandpaper may be used. Do not use a sandpaper coarser than #1000, or you will leave scratches that cannot be removed with polishing compound.

   NOTE: DSM approval is required before going on to Step 7 if this is a warranty repair.

7. Before repainting, wet-sand the surface with #600 sandpaper until all traces of acid rain damage are removed.

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

NEW

Step 1:
3M General Purpose Adhesive Cleaner – P/N 08984

Step 3:
3M FINESSE-IT II Finishing Material – P/N 05928

Step 4:
3M SUPERBUFF Polishing Pad – P/N 05705,
or
3M HOOK-IT SBS Polishing Pad – P/N 05713

Step 5:
3M IMPERIAL Microfinishing Compound P/N 06011, with the 3M SUPERBUFF or HOOK-IT Polishing Pad.
3M PERFECT-IT Foam Polishing Pad Glaze P/N 05995 or 05996, with 3M PERFECT-IT Foam Polishing Pad – P/N 05725

Step 6:
3M Imperial Wetordry Color Sanding Paper:
#1000 P/N 02021
#1200 P/N 02022
#1500 P/N 02023
#2000 P/N 02044

WARRANTY INFORMATION

American Honda will reimburse for this repair only under the following conditions:

- It is done during PDI.
- No more than 30 days have elapsed since the vehicle was received at the dealership (according to the date noted on the motor carrier's bill of lading).

	Steps 1,2,3, (4 or 5)	Steps 1,2,3,5,6 (DSM Approval Required)	Step 7 (DSM Approval Required)
Operation Number	**910906**	**910907**	**Review the Flat Rate Manual for Preparation and Painting Times, or Sublet Information**
Flat Rate Time	**1.5 hours**	**4.5 hours**	

Failed Part: PDI-PAINT
H/C 3173994

Defect Code: 090

Contention Code: A99

NOTE: When submitting the claim on Hondanet, enter the vehicle's date of receipt in the customer contention comment section. **The claim will be rejected without this information.**